GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2230
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2003
SPECIAL STATUS TO RAJASTHAN
JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to give special status to Rajasthan;

(b) if so, whether the government propose to provide special assistance to desert and border districts of Rajasthan on the lines of Assistance provided to hilly districts of the country;

(c) if so, by when such an assistance is likely to be provided; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE(SHRI S.S.H MOOKHERJEE)

(a) : No, Sir.

(b) to (d) : In addition to the regular allocations being made to the State of Rajashan for the ongoing Area Development Programmes (Desert Development Programme, Drought Prone Area Programme and Integrated Wasteland Development Programme), Planning Commission has allocated Rs.50 crore in the Annual Plan 2003-04 of the Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development, for a special programme aimed at drought proofing of the desert districts of Rajasthan. This programme envisages development of at least one large pasturage nursery in each of the identified districts, as a Central scheme, for restoration of traditional water courses and other measures so as to ensure effective drought proofing.

In addition to the above-mentioned programmes, Special Central Assistance under the Border Area Development Programme is also being provided to Rajasthan for the blocks having international border.